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Date of Deposit: December 14, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Examiner: V. Portner

Art Unit: 1645

Application of: Coyler et al.

Serial No.: 09/259,658

Filed: February 26, 1999

Entitled: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR
MONITORING THE MODIFICATION
STATE OF A PAIR OF POLYPEPTIDES

Atty. Docket No.: 10069/1040 {formerly 4256/79245}

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSIONUNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.6d

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any paper referred to as being enclosed are being facsimile transmitted on the date indicated above to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (703) 308-4407

Mary Wilson

Name of Person Faxing

Signature of Person Mailing Paper

REQUEST TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

A Notice of Abandonment for failure to timely file a Notice of Appeal in the above-noted patent application was mailed on November 29, 2001 and received in undersigned representative's offices on December 6, 2001.

Applicants submit herewith copies of the following documents:

1. The dated U.S. postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee receipt, showing deposit on October 19, 2001 at 7:15 PM and the initials of the receiving clerk;
2. The Transmittal Letter and Notice of Appeal filed October 19, 2001, with Certificate of Express Mailing under 37 C.F.R. §1.10;
3. The Petition for Three Months' Extension of Time;
4. The check in the amount of \$565 to cover the Appeal Fee and the Extension of Time.

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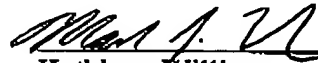
A Notice of Appeal from the Examiner's decision in the Final Office Action mailed April 19, 2001 was due October 19, 2001 in order to keep the case alive (a reply to the final Office Action mailed April 19, 2001 was filed August 15, 2001, and an Advisory Action mailed September 19, 2001 was received October 4, 2001). Applicants therefore submit, in light of the documentation submitted herewith which proves deposit with the U.S. Postal Service on October 19, 2001, that the Notice of Appeal was **timely filed**, and that the subject application should not have been declared abandoned. Applicants believe that the recent interruption of mail service in the Washington D.C. area due to the anthrax attacks apparently delayed actual receipt of the Notice of Appeal and required fees by the P.T.O. Applicants note that the return postcard included with the filing has not yet been received by Applicants, which further supports the conclusion that the P.T.O., as addressee, has not yet received the mailing.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the holding of abandonment be withdrawn. Applicants believe there are no fees required at this time. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees related to this request to Deposit Account No. 16-0085, Reference No. 10069/1040.

Respectfully submitted,

December 14, 2001

Date



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